

Family Updates & Covid Positive 10.15.2020

Dear Families & Friends -

Thank you for entrusting the Veterans Home to provide health and wellness services to you or your loved one throughout this pandemic. We are honored to support you and proud to prioritize the safety of your entire family.

Since our last update, we are happy to announce that the member who was confirmed to have the virus is now cleared to leave the Covid-positive space following the guidelines from the CDC and public health.

Unfortunately though, we were informed today that one contracted individual who provides services to the members has been diagnosed with COVID-19. However, this individual has not worked at the Veterans Home in over three weeks and will not be returning until cleared to do so.

We are overjoyed that now six individuals at the Veterans Home are no longer COVID-positive or COVID-suspected.

Since the pandemic began, one member, three staff, and now one contracted individual have tested positive for the virus. In addition, we had the one member and one staff who were suspected to have the virus.

Our COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Response Action Plan is designed to follow all guidance from local, state, and federal health officials. By following it, we're protecting the wellness of the Veterans Home members and staff. This plan includes:

- Utilizing appropriate personal protective equipment;
- Screening and monitoring of members, staff, and visitors for symptoms;
- Testing members and staff based on federal and state guidance;
- Quarantining COVID-19 positive members with dedicated staff to provide care;
- Taking environmental safety precautions, such as disinfecting high-touch surfaces;
- Adhering to safe visitation procedures; and
- Assuring safe congregate dining and group activities.

We understand visitation restrictions are difficult for our members and families but we're following guidance set by health officials. Visitation options vary based on a community's COVID-19 status as well as its county positivity rate. As a reminder, our current COVID-19 status permits CLOSED window visits and virtual visits.

Lastly, we will be administering flu shots to the staff and members soon. We highly recommend that everyone gets a flu shot to ensure an extra level of protection during these unprecedented times.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at <u>Veterans.Home-CF@dva.wi.gov</u> or 715-720-6775.

Best

Megan M. Corcoran, NHA | Administrator Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls